Applicant: STARZ, et al.

Serial No.: 09/915,764

Filing Date: July 27, 2001

Amendment and Reply to Office Action - December 13, 2005

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

application:

Listing of Claims:

An ink for producing membrane electrode assembly Claim 1 (previously presented):

for a fuel cell comprising an electrocatalyst, an ionomer, water and an organic solvent,

wherein said organic solvent is at least one linear dialcohol with a flash point higher than

100°C and being present in the ink in a concentration between 1 and 50 wt.%, with

respect to the weight of water.

Claim 2 (previously presented):

The ink according to Claim 1, wherein

said organic solvent is present in the ink in a concentration between 5 and 25 wt.%, with

respect to the weight of water.

Claim 3 (previously presented):

The ink according to Claim 1 wherein said linear

alcohol is a dihydric alcohol wherein hydroxyl groups are not adjacent to each other.

Claim 4 (previously presented):

The ink according to Claim 3 wherein said alcohol

has a chain structure that is aliphate – CH₂ groups, optionally with oxygen atoms between

said CH₂ groups

Claim 5 (previously presented):

The ink according to Claim 1, wherein said

dialcohol is a member selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, diethylene

glycol, propylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, butanediol and mixtures thereof.

Claims 6-8:

Cancelled

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Claim 9 (new): The ink according to Claim 1, wherein said dialcohol is 1,2-

propylene glycol or 1,3-propylene glycol.

Claim 10 (new): The ink according to Claim 1, wherein said electrocatalyst is a

noble metal-containing supported catalyst.

Claim 11 (new): The ink according to Claim 1, wherein said electrocatalyst is a

support-free catalyst.

Claim 12 (new): The ink according to Claim 11, wherein said electrocatalyst is

platinum black or platinum powder with high surface area.

Claim 13 (new): The ink according to Claim 1, wherein the ionomer is employed as

ionomer solution in aqueous form.

Claim 14 (new): The ink according to Claim 1, wherein the ionomer is employed as

aqueous Nafion® solution.

Claim 15 (new): The ink according to Claim 13, wherein the ionomer solution in

aqueous form has a ionomer concentration of 10% in water.

Claim 16 (new): A polymer electrolyte membrane coated with the ink of Claim 1.

Claim 17 (new): A membrane electrode assembly with the ink of Claim 1.

Claim 18 (new): A gas distributor substrate coated with the ink of Claim 1.